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THE PACIFIC

COMMERCIAL

Saturday, Feb. 23, 1884.

EDITORIAL ARTICLES.

FROM THE DAILY P. C. A.

HON. F. WHITAKER whilome Premier and oft-times Attorney-General of the British Colony of New Zealand, has been delivering a lecture to the people of Auckland on the work of the late inter-colonial Convention held in Sydney, in the course of which he has been pleased to make some very silly remarks about this country. For the amusement and instruction of our readers, we have reproduced this portion of his remarks in full in the abstract of the lecture which appears in our present issue. There is instruction well as amusement to be got out of Mr. Whitaker's utterances, because it may teach us how little is known in other lands about this island Kingdom, in spite of the thousand and one books that have been written about it. Since it is to the advantage of any country that needs peopling and developing, to be well known, we may take a lesson from the ignorance which this pseudostatesman exhibits, not to begrudge the expense of any methods by which Hawaii is advertised and made known

learning. We have called the late Premier of New Zealand a pseudo-statesman because he is a man who has been thrust into prominent political positions by force of circumstances and not because of any aptitudes that he possessed. There was a time when it was difficult to find a lawyer in the New Zealand legislature, and it was a joke in the colony that this Mr. Whitaker was always ready to fill the post, who ever might for the nonce be in power. Possessed of a glib tongue he was selected as their favorite lawyer and politcapitalists who have been known in would like to be, as "the power behind the throne." Long experience had the effect of making him a useful | letter. man, and the connections just referred to, helped him to become a prominent man, and in the end he became the Prime Minister of the Colony a post from which he lately voluntarily retired because the people were getting tired of him and of his backers. Such is the individual who has undertaken to inform the people of Auckland about the Hawaiian Kingdom, with what success our readers

may judge for themselves. In the first place Mr. Whitaker is entirely inaccurate in saying that Mr. Audley Coote had any authority from the government of this country to bring the Hawaiian Protest against annexation before the Sydney Conjustice in his concluding remarks.

Sir Frederic Whitaker as he has whipping programme, the editor

since become) fell into are so alpable to people here that we need not dilate upon them. The idea that the Government of this country is run by a few American sugar planters must be very amusing to the planters themselves, who like their fellow planters in Fiji are much troubled that they cannot accomplish that feat. Mr. Whitaker, in picturing the savages for whom he asserts the Protest claims the right to a chance of national development, conveniently ignores the fact that the British Government was at first asked by the representatives of the colonies to annex Samoa and the Gilbert and Marshal Islands, the Tonga Islands and other groups, which are peopled by a mace kindred to the Hawaiian, and whose populations are more or less advanced, by missionary teaching, in civilization, and many of which have governments of their own as stable and enlightened as that of these Islands was thirty years ago.

MR. CLARENCE W. ASHFORD Was round at this office several times on Tuesday forenoon to see the responsible editor of the paper. Finally he met that individual in the street and it was agreed between them to adjourn to his office for the discussion of anything that Mr. Ashford wanted to say, the editorial rooms of the Ap-VERTISER being less private. The editor had been informed before hand that in the world, a lesson which a great Mr. Ashford wanted to see him, and many people here have yet to begin judging of other people by himself as we are all so apt to do, had expected to meet a reasonable being of gentlemanly bearing. Subsequent experience showed that he had to deal with a man demented by his inordinate vanity and self-sufficiency. We are not going to trouble our readers with a detailed account of what passed. Finding that the name of the writer of a letter signed "Paterfamilias," which appeared in our issue of yesterday would not be given up to him without said writer's leave, Mr. Ashford threatened to horse-whip the editor if the letter in question should ical tool by a clique of Auckland be reproduced in the weekly issue of the Pacific Commercial Adver-New Zealand, as a certain clique here TISER. The editor replied that he should act precisely as pleased himself as to the reproduction of the said

Having a constitutional repug-

nance to quarrelling with anyone, more especially with one with whom he had always been on terms of polite acquaintance, the editor expressed a desire to know what Mr. Ashford had to object to in the letter of "Paterfamilias" whereupon that gentleman with much intemperate speech, proceeded to inform him that the letter insinuated that his wife was a leper. We have used the word "demented" in speaking of Mr. Ashford, and have used it advisedly, for was there ever a more demented construction of words than this? This boyor he is really nothing better-is very ready with his pen to repeat unvention. We have ascertained thatthis authenticated scandal against other irrepressible gentleman, who is the people, but is so incapable of standlaughing-stock of the Colonies on ing or even comprehending a litaccount of his persistent efforts to ad- tle chaff administered to him vertise himself, had absolutely no as a kindly rebuff, that he feams at warrant for urging the Ministry of the mouth and would hardly listen to the Colony he resides in, to present | the editor's suggestions as to what the the protest to the Convention. Had the | real meaning of the writer of the let-Government desired to have this done | ter might be. No! he worked himit would naturally have asked the self up into a fury and seemed ready British Secretary of State for Foreign | to perform the threatened horsewhip-Affairs to transmit it, which, as the | ping, then and there, and proceeded Protest accordied very much with his to give vent to a series of personal inown sentiments, that courteous noble- | sults to the editor; degrading himself man would undoubtedly have done. to the level of some passionate vixon Mr. Whitaker is shrewd enough to who, when her arms are pinioned, have taken the measure of Mr. And- tries to hurt with her foul tongue ley Coste, having known him and his those who try to restrain her for schemes for many years and does him her own good. With a challenge to Mr. Ashford that he dure not for The other errors Mr. Whitaker (or his own sake, undertake the horse-